

## Mississippian Speaks

# Laymen Said Untapped Resource

ASHVILLE (BP) — "Southern Baptist's greatest untapped resource is the laity," the director of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board Division of Evangelism declared here at a national consultation on lay involvement in the Southern Baptist Convention.

The involvement of Baptist men in Southern Baptist efforts need to be enlarged, broadened, and deepened, he drastically and immediately, stated Kenneth L. Chafin of Atlanta in the conference's opening session.

The denomination's national evangelism leader noted that it was ironic the laymen are not being fully utilized

to their potential in the Southern Baptist Convention, because the SBC has a background of a "people's church — a lay denomination."

He cited three possible reasons for the lack of involvement of laymen in the denomination: (1) SBC leaders have underestimated the insights and abilities of the laity; (2) the SBC has not adopted a long range, comprehensive strategy for involving laymen; and (3) lack of an adequate platform in the SBC for harvesting the best insights and opinions of the laity.

Chafin said his office had been involved in conducting a four-week

training program for laymen and pastors in the area of evangelism, and that as a result he had concluded that most preachers do not understand the insights and thinking of the laity.

Too often, he observed, the men of the denomination are not challenged to do much more than just give financially. "There is more than a man can do in a church than just serve on the finance committee," he added.

In a second speech to the conference, former Southern Baptist Convention President Wayne Dehoney, pastor of Walnut Street Baptist Church in Louisville, told of the

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# The Baptist Record

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# SBC Projections Show Membership 11.6 Million

NASHVILLE (BP)—Statistical projections based on an early profile analysis indicate that membership in Southern Baptist Convention churches will be 11.6 million, Southern Baptist leaders were told here.

The projections also indicated a probable increase in baptisms, total receipts, mission expenditures and church music enrollment.

If the unofficial projections are correct, membership in Southern Baptist churches had increased by 143,620 over the 1969 total church membership.

Total mission gifts were projected to be \$137,221,065, an increase of \$3,906,730.

The estimate disclosed a probable increase in number of baptisms from 368,225 to 369,072.

This would be an increase of 847 baptisms.

Probable decreases were projected in Sunday School, Training Union, Brotherhood, and Woman's Missionary Union enrollments.

The 25,055 churches involved in this estimate are not completely representative of all Southern Baptist churches," said Martin Bradley, secretary, research and statistics department Southern Baptist Sunday School Board.

"Some church size categories and state conventions are over represented due in part to the sequence of associational meetings," said Bradley.

"However, allowance is made for this in the statistical process of projection.

## Cooperative Gifts Up Slightly For '70

Mississippi Baptist Cooperative Program receipts for the first eleven months of this year, through November, totaled \$3,573,742, according to Dr. W. Douglas Huggins, executive secretary of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

This is an increase of \$21,100 or .6 percent over the \$3,552,642 given during the same period a year ago.

Projections made in a similar way last year proved to be very accurate," Bradley said.

The total Training Union ongoing and cumulative enrollment was projected to be 2,482,534, compared to 2,649,396 in 1969, a decrease of 147,862.

Sunday School enrollment was projected as 7,295,689 in 1970, a decrease of 122,398.

Woman's Missionary Union enrollments were projected as 1,309,180 in 1970, a decrease of 91,031.

Brotherhood, the men's and boys' mission education organization, was projected to decrease by 8,176 with a total enrollment of 422,163 for 1970.

Music ministry continued upward with an estimated total enrollment of 1,072,056, an increase of 9,562.

Total receipts were estimated to be \$886,528,174, an increase of more than \$43 million.

Final statistics based on church letters from more than 34,000 SBC churches will be released by the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board's research and statistics department in February.

The preliminary statistical projections were released here during sessions of planning meetings with leaders from 32 Baptist state conventions.

## Separationist Head Sees Tide Turning In 'Church State'

WASHINGTON, D. C. (C-SNS) — Though the crisis is not fully past, there is a definite turning of the tide in favor of strict separation of church and state, according to Glenn L. Archer, executive director of Americans United for Separation of Church and State. The text of Mr. Archer's statement follows:

"While the challenge to separation of church and state in 1970 has by no means been dissipated, the tide has now definitely turned in favor of the separationists. The last four lawsuits dealing with the constitutionality of government grants to sectarian schools have all resulted in decisions against any such use of public funds. The cases are:

Montana: Chambers v. School District No. 10. Rhode Island: DiCenso v. Robinson. Connecticut: Johnson v. Sanders. Louisiana: Seegers v. park-

er. All these cases were decided this year.

"Maybe four swallows do not make a spring, but this certainly doesn't look like winter. When we recall the overwhelming defeats of state aid to parochial schools by popular referendum in Michigan and Nebraska; the rejection of such legislation in 30 state legislatures; and the unanimous opinion of the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court on this subject, we have further impressive evidence. To be sure, there are problems enough to test the sinews of patriots; but there are also victories to hearten the valiant."

"The clerics promoting government aid to parochial schools have somewhat the people have not been deceived. They stand firmly as they have since the days of Jefferson and Madison for a country where all religions shall have free exercise, but no man shall be taxed for their support."

# Christmas Airdrop Ready For Remote Sites

WEATHERFORD, Tex. (BP) — to people in a number of isolated Mexican and Texas communities along the Rio Grande River.



Members And Employees  
Mississippi Baptist Convention Board

Instead of a sleigh pulled by reindeer, however, Santa will be flying an airplane along with other volunteer pilots.

Behind the "Spirit of Christmas" airdrop are Southern Baptists from more than 80 churches in eight Texas counties.

Men in pickup trucks will carry the gifts — food, clothing and medical supplies, plus Christmas stockings with candy, toys and fruit — to airstrips near the Mexican border.

From there, Wings for Christ and other pilots will fly the goods to remote villages which are inaccessible or difficult to reach by normal land traffic," said Cal Hollis of Weatherford, Tex., one of two Southern Airways employees coordinating the aerial Christmas drop. The other is Marvin Harvey of Mineral Wells, Tex.

Plans call for spreading Christmas cheer to towns and communities along an 800-mile stretch of the Rio Grande River, from El Paso To Laredo, Tex., Hollis said.

"The number of people helped will depend largely on how many planes are available," said Hollis. "Every day, more churches are volunteering to provide supplies."

With the other gifts will go copies of Good News For Modern Man and Spanish - language tracts.

"Some dentists in Fort Worth are

furnishing dental and oral hygiene kits. The list of people contributing the Christmas airdrop is numerous, said Elmin Howell of Dallas, coordinator for Texas Baptists' Rio Grande River ministry.

Howell said the project is being coordinated through Texas Baptists' area missionaries along the river.

Hollis said the genius for the Christmas effort came largely from Baptists across the state who had served previously as short-term volunteer missionaries along the river.

"Many people from upstate churches, both youth and adults, have spent their vacations conducting Bible schools, drilling and equipping water wells and otherwise helping poverty-stricken people to help themselves," Hollis said.

"We're trying to get as many people participating in the Christmas effort as possible," he said. "We feel it will serve as an icebreaker, and they will go back later to do more."

Howell said that in the past three years, the Texas Baptist convention has invested nearly \$800,000 of Cooperative Program funds in the river ministry.

Among other continuing efforts are four mobile medical units staffed by volunteer doctors, dentists, and nurses to aid people of two nations from El Paso to Brownsville.



## I Heard The Bells On Christmas Day

I heard the bells on Christmas Day their old familiar carols play;  
And wild and sweet the words repeat of peace on earth, good will to men.

I thought how as the day had come, the belfries of all Christendom  
Had rolled along the unbroken song of peace on earth, good will to men.

And in despair I bowed my head. There is no peace on earth, I said,  
For hate is strong, and mocks the song of peace on earth, good will to men.

Then pealed the bells more loud and deep, God is not dead, nor doth he sleep;  
The wrong shall fail, the right prevail of peace on earth, good will to men.

Till ringing, singing on its way, the world revolved from night to day,  
A voice, a chime, a chant sublime of peace on earth, good will to men.

—Henry Wadsworth Longfellow  
(Home Board Photo)

# Morgan Elected To High Post With Annuity Board Of SBC

DALLAS (BP) — Darold H. Morgan, 46, pastor of Cliff Temple Baptist Church, has been elected senior vice president and assistant to the president of the Southern Baptist Annuity Board, here. He was assumed his duties on March 1, 1971.

Morgan was a unanimous choice of the executive committee of the Board for the post which is expected to prepare him for a promotion to the agency's top executive position upon the retirement in March, 1972, of R. Alton Reed, president and chief executive officer.

All officers are elected annually by the board of trustees. According to the Board's Bylaws, no board can elect officers for a succeeding board.

In his new work, Morgan will understand the activities of Reed, who has served in the top position since 1955. The position of president and chief executive officer is one of the most responsible posts in the denomination.

The president is responsible to the

## State Couple To Serve In Nigeria

RICHMOND, Va. — Dr. and Mrs. John W. McFadden of West Point, Miss., were among 23 persons commissioned to overseas service Dec. 10 by the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board in Richmond, Va.

Dr. McFadden, a pediatrician who has been in private practice in West Point since July 1968, will be a "special project" physician in Nigeria for the board. Under this plan, physicians, dentists and nurses, and their spouses, are employed by the board for a year in medical missions overseas.

In 1967 Dr. McFadden interrupted a two-year pediatrics residency at the University of Texas Medical Branch Hospitals, Galveston, to spend three months in Vietnam as a volunteer pediatrician under the U. S. Agency for International Development.

He received the bachelor of science degree from Mississippi State University.

trustees and the Southern Baptist Convention for the administration of the protection programs and for the investment of funds held in trust for thousands of Baptist ministers, church and denominational employees. As of October 1, 1970, the funds held in trust totaled almost \$244 million.

Reed praised the election of Morgan, saying: "The committee found the most qualified man in the denomination for this position."

Morgan has served on just about every committee at the Annuity Board since becoming a trustee in 1967.

In addition, he participated in a 19-month Long Range Study of the Board's organization, which resulted recently in the re-organization of the agency. For the past two years, Morgan has served as chairman of the board.

The election of Morgan complied with the directive board the board of trustees who last February authorized the executive committee to elect a senior vice president prior to the 1971 meeting for the purpose of succeeding Reed upon the latter's retirement. A special committee made up of six trustees from the Administrative Policy Committee and three trustees of state conventions, recommended Morgan.

Donald Bowles, a Dallas insurance executive, served as chairman of the committee. Other members included: Charles Cockrell, Garland pastor; W. A. Criswell, Dallas pastor; Frank Durham, Dallas executive; and Abner McCall, Baylor University president. State trustees included: A. D. Foreman, Jr., pastor in Tennessee; James F. Jones, pastor in Michigan; and Robert S. Cooper, pastor in South Carolina.

Since April 1966, Morgan has served as pastor of Cliff Temple Baptist Church, one of the larger churches in the denomination and a church which has provided leadership to the Annuity Board for more than half a century. While Wallace Bassett, Morgan's predecessor, served as a trustee for 4 years, most of that time as chairman.

Prior to coming to Cliff Temple,

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# FMB Appoints State Couple Squaw Valley Is Possible Site For Baptist Youth Conference

(Continued From Page 1)

sity, State College, and the doctor of medicine degree from the University of Mississippi School of Medicine, Jackson.

Born in Monroe, La., McFadden lived in Bastrop, La., and Cedar Bluff, Miss., before his family settled in West Point when he was 9.



Dr. and Mrs. McFadden

Mrs. McFadden, the former Fonce McPhail, who born in Tulsa, Okla., and she grew up in Hattiesburg, Miss. She received the bachelor of science degree from the University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg, and took additional premedical courses at the University of Mississippi School of Medicine.

After training at the University of Mississippi School of Medical Technology, Jackson, Mrs. McFadden was certified in medical technology. She worked at the University Medical Center and at St. Dominic Hospital, both in Jackson, and later was a part-time medical technologist in Galveston.

Dr. McFadden told the Foreign Mission Board he first became interested in medical missions while in high school, but he knew little about such work until he attended a medical missions conference during his senior year in college.

Mrs. McFadden was also a high school student when she attended Ridgecrest (N.C.) Baptist Assembly for a week and "flet called to foreign missions."

The McFaddens have three daughters: Alice Elizabeth, 5½, Rebecca Jane, 4½, and Martha Lynn, 2.

WASHINGTON (BP) — The Baptist Youth World Conference in 1973 will take a realistic look at world problems, seek solutions on the basis of Christian principles, and then propose youth involvement in these solutions.

This is how Karl-Heinz Walter of Hamburg, Germany, chairman of the Baptist World Alliance youth committee, summed up plans for the conference after a 16-member com-

mittee, most of them college age youth, discussed the 1973 meeting. "Christian youth wants to be involved," said Walter. "We want to do more than talk and pass resolutions." No meeting site has yet been set, but the alliance youth department's administrative subcommittee leans to the selection of Squaw Valley, Calif., a winter ski resort between San Francisco and Reno, Nevada, Walter said.

The proposal is contingent on a vote of the full 150-member international youth committee, and on making satisfactory arrangements with Squaw Valley authorities.

An attendance of up to 10,000 youth from 80 countries is possible for the meeting, the committee said, questioning the ability of such a big crowd to work seriously on world issues and problems.

The committee agreed to bring a smaller group together for three days of special study prior to the main conference. Participants in the pre-conference sessions would be chosen to provide the widest possible national backgrounds.

The 1973 meeting will be the 8th in a series that began in Prague, Czechoslovakia, in 1931.



## Clarke Concert Choir And Clarke Singers Present Handel's "Messiah"

UNDER THE direction of James B. McElroy, instructor in voice and choral conducting at Clarke, the Concert Choir, at left above, and Clarke College Singers, at right, gave the Christmas portion of Handel's "Messiah" at the Fifteenth Avenue Church, Meridian, on December 6. Soloists for the "Messiah" were students at the college. The two choirs presented Vivaldi's "Gloria"

in the Lott Fine Arts Building on campus on December 15. The choirs will also make a video tape of light Christmas music to be carried over television station WTOK, Meridian during the Christmas season. Janet Clark of Pelahatchie and Diane McDill of Forest are the accompanists.

## January BH Topics

The reasons for human suffering and its meaning in the life of the Christian will be the subject of a series of sermons to be delivered by Dr. Herschel H. Hobbs on "The Baptist Hour," beginning in January.

Fear and the provisions God has made for reassuring those who trust Him will be discussed in "A Song in the Night," the sermon for January 3. "Suffering: God's Will or Satan's Will?" is the title for the January 10 sermon, a message on physical suffering. On January 17, the topic will be "Jesus Also Wept," a discussion of grief and sorrow. The January 24 sermon, "When the Books Are Closed," will emphasize God's promise that blessings will outweigh sufferings in His eternal plan for the Christian, and "The Stewardship of Sorrow," scheduled for January 31, will explain how the Christian can use his suffering for the glory of God.

## Dave Cheavens, Baptist Leader, Passes

BRYAN, Tex. (BP) — Dave Cheavens, chairman of the department of Journalism at Baylor University, Waco, Tex., and a noted newsman died Dec. 6 while attending a meeting of the Southwest Journalism Conference.

Immediate cause of death for the 63-year-old Cheavens was listed as heart arrest.

Cheavens, a Baptist layman, joined the Baylor University faculty in 1961 after 20 years as chief of the Associated Press Capitol Bureau in Austin, Tex.

His widow, the former Alice Dawson, is the daughter of J. M. Dawson, a founder of Americans United for Separation of Church and State and the first executive director of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs in Washington, D. C.

Funeral services were to be at 11:30 a.m., Thursday, Dec. 10, at First Baptist Church, Waco, Tex.

## New Volume Sees 'Church Lobby' Firmly Entrenched In Washington

WASHINGTON, D. C. (RNS) — The "church lobby" is as firmly entrenched in the nation's capital, as the Washington Monument, according to a new book which will be read with keen interest by executives of national religious agencies here.

"The Growing Church Lobby in Washington" (Wm. B. Eerdmans) by James L. Adams is one of the first detailed studies of religious influence in national policy during the 1960s.

Mr. Adams, a Cincinnati newsman, began gathering data for the book when he was a Fellow at the Washington Journalism Center in 1967.

He holds that the "church lobby" is "stronger than an army" in some cases. In fact, he attributes more power to the lobbyists than most of them feel they have.

The author does not depict church lobbying as a one-way street. He recounts incidents in which legislators or other government officials have cultivated the support of churchmen and then called on them to testify before Congressional subcommittees.

What is a "church lobby?" As Dr. J. Elliott Corbett, a United Methodist official has noted, Mr. Adams does not really define the manner in which

he uses the term "lobby." The Congressional Quarterly, Dr. Corbett notes, gives three meanings: Those who carry on activities to influence Congressional action, those who pay for attempts to influence legislators through direct contact, and anyone required to register under the lobby law.

If the last definition is taken, there is only one church lobby in Washington — the Friends (Quaker) Committee on National Legislation. It is under the first and broadest possibility that Mr. Adams proceeds. Among the groups he considers

church lobbies are the National Council of Churches, various departments of the U. S. Catholic Conference, Jewish agencies, social action sections of major Protestant denominations, the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, and Americans United for Separation of Church and State.

America showed a lower per capita rate of cigarettes smoked in 1969 than any year since 1958. The cigarette price rise and increased antismoking publicity could have contributed to the drop.



Christine McClamroch, Miss Mississippi 1970, on the Monday night program will give her personal testimony.



GARY GOOGE, Mississippi College student, will be the principal speaker at the Monday night session.



JOE MASON, minister of youth and recreation, First Church, Nashville, Tenn., will direct the recreation features.



Green Rodgers Wilkinson Prather  
Hayes Simmons Baddley Gaskins

December 28-29; Calvary Church, Jackson (Day); Jackson City Auditorium (Night)

## Church Training And Music Departments Jointly Sponsor Youth Convention

### Program Features

STATE YOUTH CHOIR  
ADJUDICATION  
DAUGLAS WATTERSON,  
SPEAKER  
Pastor, First Baptist Church  
Tallahassee, Florida

"NOW HEAR IT—AGAIN"  
Musical Presented by 400 Voice Choir

DRAMA  
JOE MASON,  
RECREATION FEATURES  
Minister of Youth,  
First Baptist Church  
Nashville, Tennessee

YOUTH TESTIMONIES

"LIVING IN THE SPIRIT"  
Musical Drama

COFFEE HOUSE

GARY GOOGE,  
YOUTH SPEAKER  
Mississippi College Student and  
Youth Evangelist

CONFERENCES  
Discussion on Topics for Today

### General Information

STATE YOUTH CHOIR  
ADJUDICATION — 9:30 A.M.,  
DECEMBER 28  
YOUTH CONVENTION—2:15 P.M.,  
DECEMBER 28 THROUGH  
TUESDAY NIGHT, DECEMBER 29



THE McDOWELL ROAD SINGERS, McDowell Road Church, Jackson, have been selected to participate, along with 17 other choirs, in the State Choral Festival during the Youth Convention December 28-29. They have sung in area and association festivals in the past two months. The group is under direction of Johnny E. Speedling, Jr., accompanied by Mrs. Ann Speedling.



THE PILGRIM 20 Singers, nationally known rock-folk-religious group based in Wichita, Kansas, will sing Monday evening.

SOME PLANNING LEADERS in the Youth Convention to be held December 28-29 are pictured above: Billy Jack Green, minister of music, Daniel Memorial, Jackson music coordinator; Norman Rodgers, associate, Church Training Department, convention coordinator; Bill Wilkinson, First, Columbia, "Now Hear It Again"; Edw. Prather, First, Yazoo City, State Choral Festival; James Hayes, First, Hattiesburg, "Living in Spirit"; Roddy Simmons, First, Brandon, congregational music; Tommy Baddley, Broadmoor, Jackson, Afta-Hours; Aubrey Gaskins, Harrisburg, Tupe, State Instrumental Festival.



DANIEL MEMORIAL'S "POUND OF POP" will be among the 18 church choral groups invited to compete in the State Choral Festival during the Youth Convention. They will also sing at Afta-Hours at the Sun 'n Sand. Auditioned from the Daniel Church Senior High Choir, this group (ages 15-17) has sung for church concerts, banquets, coffeehouses, school assemblies, revival services, and statewide television. They are accompanied by the Pound Sound, a five or six-piece combo of brass, woodwind, keyboard, string and percussion, and are directed by Billy Jack Green.



"NOW HEAR IT AGAIN"—The group above is made up of selected youth from New Hope, Foxworth, Zena, and First Church, Columbia, in Marion County. They are a representative group of 25 choirs participating in the musical. This folk musical will be presented by a 40-voice choir on Tuesday night, Bill Wilkinson of First, Columbia, directing.



# Laymen Said Untapped Resource

(Continued From Page 1)

involvement of laymen in his own congregation as an example of how laymen can be involved.

The problems is that in many churches, we've only thought in terms of laymen doing about three things—taking up an offering as an usher, teaching a Sunday School class, or praying in public," he observed.

"Somehow we've got to break through and say that we have all of these tremendous challenges of the day that somehow we ought to harness the church up to use the great resources of the laity in meeting these challenges," Dehoney said.

The conference concluded with an address by Owen Cooper, Baptist layman from Yazoo City, Miss., who said that Southern Baptists need to offer a big challenge to their laymen, rather than just giving them routine little jobs to do.

Cooper, president of the Mississippi Chemical Corp., said that there are more Baptist laymen out deer hunting in the fall than there are attending the Southern Baptist Convention in June, and that laymen have not sufficiently been challenged to be involved in the denomination.

He suggested that the SBC begin a mass circulation magazine similar to Readers Digest or Time to provide better communications with laymen, and suggested that a layman be in-

vited to address the denomination's annual convention just as a pastor is invited each year to deliver the annual convention sermon.

He also suggested a bigger financial challenge to laymen, saying that if Southern Baptists sought to repeat the emphasis of their \$75 million cam-

paigned 1919, the goal would need to be \$1 billion, \$200 million to be comparable in today's finances. "Yet we still think \$1 million is a big offering goal," he said.

Cooper said he strongly advocated lay participation in evangelistic crusades, "not because they do so much good, but because they do the guy who goes so much good."

Cooper, chairman of the lay utilization study committee appointed by the SBC Executive Committee which sponsored the national consultation, said that the meeting here was the first time the SBC had undertaken such a study, and that some things would have been different if they had an opportunity to do it again.

"But don't think for one moment that our time here has been in vain," he told the 208 laymen, 73 ministers, and 49 denominational workers attending the meeting. "I think this meeting has been tremendously significant and successful," Cooper said. He added that summaries of all the group discussions during the meeting would be fed into the study of lay utilization and provide "ideas that will result in a more effective program 'in Southern Baptist life.'"

## Studies Made

More than 300 grappled for nearly three days with how to involve more laymen at a deeper level in the work of Baptist churches and the denomination, sharing their findings with a committee appointed by the Southern Baptist Executive Committee to study the problems.

The conference participants divided up into 25 different small groups spending one day discussing specific areas of lay involvement. A summary of their discussions was fed into two findings committee which brought final reports to the entire group in the last session.

The two committees outlined 16 pages of suggestions on deeper involvement of laymen, but no action was taken by the consultation participants. Rather, the information was shared with the lay utilization committee appointed by the SBC Executive Committee which will study the findings and make later recommendations.

"This meeting has served well to begin the process of finding what laymen are thinking," concluded one of the two findings committees in its report. "The suggestions are somewhat tentative because of insufficient time both to incubate thought and to



Dr. Morgan

## Morgan Elected - - -

(Continued from page 1)

western Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth. Born August 5, 1924, in Coffeyville, Kansas, Morgan attended public schools there, in Spokane, Washington, and in Fort Worth.

He married Elizabeth Lucille Johnson of Carbondale, Illinois, in 1947. They have three children, two sons and a daughter.

## Arizona Elects Roy Sutton

PHOENIX, Ariz. (BP) — The Executive Board of the Arizona Southern Baptist Convention elected Roy F. Sutton as executive secretary - treasurer of the convention.

Sutton, who has been acting executive secretary since the resignation of Charles L. McKay in September, previously had been director of the convention's missions division. Mc-

Kay resigned to become pastor of First Southern Baptist Church, Scottsdale, Ariz.

The new Arizona Baptist Executive came to the state 24 years ago for health reasons after a doctor told him he had only a brief time to live. He is in good health, now, however, associates reported.

## Regional Building Program Seminars Set For Spring

NASHVILLE — Three regional seminars on "Fundamentals of Planning and Leading a Church Building Program" have been announced by the church architecture department of the Sunday School Board for this spring.

Dates and locations of the seminars are Feb. 18-19, 1971, Las Vegas, Nev.; April 12-13, 1971, Mobile, Ala.; and May 10-14, 1971, Kansas City, Mo.

The emphasis in each of the conferences will be on needs of individual churches. Personal conferences will be scheduled. Videotape presentations also will be used in the sessions. Special attention will be given to the solving of problems arising from curriculum and organizational changes.

The Alabama conference will be led by consultant George Fletcher; field services section director Rowland E. Crowder; and supervisors Paul M. Johnson and T. Lee Anderton.

## Campbell College Emeritus President Dies At Age Of 78

BUIES CREEK, N. C. (BP) — Leslie Hartwell Campbell, for 33 years president of Campbell College here, died Nov. 25 of heart failure. He was 78.

The Baptist college, founded by and named for his father, James Archibald Campbell, paused in the midst of the Thanksgiving holidays to honor Campbell.

Funeral services for Campbell, president emeritus of the school, were held in the college chapel on Nov. 27.

Campbell had held the school's top administrative office for 33 of his 52 years of almost continued service as teacher and administrator at Campbell.

## Byram To Present Cantata

The youth and adult choirs of Byram Church will combine Sunday night December 20, to present "Night of Miracles" at 7 p.m. in the auditorium of Byram Church.

The organist will be Kathy McCool, sophomore at Mississippi College. The pianist will be Dale Owens, freshman at Byram High School.

The program will be under the direction of Billy Simmons. The soloists will be Claude Patrick, Max Thompson, Dean Owens, Cheryl Biggs, and Betty Butler. Rev. H. J. Bennett is pastor.

## Pleasant Grove Choir To Present Cantata

The choir of Pleasant Grove Church, Brookhaven, will present the Christmas cantata, "Night of Miracles," at the Sunday morning worship service, on December 20.

Mrs. Johnnie Jackson is choir director. Four soloists will include Mrs. Dorothy Smith, Curtis Posey, Carey Smith, and V. C. Nations. Rev. Dewey Smith is pastor.

## No Baptist Record Next Week

Christmas week is one of the two of the year when no Baptist Record is published. Your next issue will be dated Dec. 31.



## Nativity

Lithograph by Agn Tail—Gift of Albert P. Strietmann to the Mr. and Mrs. Ross W. Sloniker collection of Twentieth Century Biblical and Religious Prints.—(RNS Photo)

## Manhattan Baptist Christmas Eve Service To Be Telecast Live On National Network

The Manhattan Baptist Church Christmas Eve service, featuring a message by Dr. Kenneth Chafin, director of the Home Mission Board's division of evangelism, will be telecast live from the Chapel of the United Nations Church Center in New York as a CBS "Christmas Eve special."

The program, an hour-long cooperative production of CBS and the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission, will begin at 12:00 midnight, Eastern Standard Time.

Traditional and informal elements will be combined in the service, which will celebrate the birth of Christ. Rev. Mel Hawthorne, pastor of the Manhattan Baptist Church, will preside.

Dr. Chafin will present an interpretation of the Christmas message. Simultaneous translations will be provided for the multi-national, multi-racial congregation.

Christmas carols, hymns and other music performed by the choir will be arranged and directed by Beryl Red, music director of the church and consultant to the Radio-TV Commission.

James Hott, director of Religious Broadcasts for CBS News, is executive producer of the Christmas Eve special.

Thursday, December 17, 1970

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## "Shepherds Watched Their Flocks By Night . . ."

While shepherds watched their flocks by night, Christ the Lord was born in a manger in the town of Bethlehem. Herders still tend to their sheep in

the sparse vegetation of the Judean hills above Bethlehem as they did on that first Christmas evening. (RNS Photo)

## Missionary Designs Baby Incubators

Three homemade incubators are saving numbers of small babies' lives at the Baptist Medical Centre in Ogbomoso, Nigeria, thanks to Sherman C. Hart Jr., Southern Baptist missionary maintenance engineer.

The Ogbomoso hospital had incubators, but there were so many premature babies born that more were needed. Even full-term babies often need to be placed in an incubator because of their size and condition.

Since incubators cannot be bought in Nigeria some were ordered from the United States, but after many months passed and the incubators had not arrived the hospital staff gave up hope of receiving them.

Dr. Margaret Richardson (Mrs.)

Jarrett W. H., Jr., missionary pediatrician for the hospital, asked Sherman Hart to design an incubator that could be built locally. Using his design, hospital carpenters constructed three incubators. Two small ones are used for newborn babies, and a larger one can be used in the pediatric ward for older babies who for some special reason need the extra warmth it provides.

A plywood box with extra-heavy window glass on all four sides was fitted with mahogany legs and rollers. Thermostats, which would have controlled temperature automatically, were not available. Hart ordered them, but so far they have not arrived.

His solution was to equip the incubators with light bulbs, four for the large one and three for the smaller ones. The lights, each controlled by a separate switch, can be turned on as needed to give the temperature required for each particular case. Bulbs of different wattage can be used as needed.

In the hospital's original incubators, light bulbs mounted overhead continually shone in the babies' eyes. Dr. Richardson prefers Hart's homemade ones because the lights underneath do not harm the babies. They have been in constant use for several months now, says Hart, and they continue to save lives.

## Joint Baptist Board Meetings Suggested For '76

WASHINGTON (BP) — The North American Baptist Fellowship central committee discussed the possibility of scheduling simultaneous and joint meetings of general boards of Baptist conferences and conventions in North America during 1976, on the 200th anniversary of the independence of the United States.

The committee requested the executive secretaries of the member Baptist groups to study the proposal, and asked Porter Routh, executive secretary of the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention, to serve as convener.

More than 40 representatives from eight Baptist groups in the United States and Canada participated in the annual meeting. G. K. Zimmerman of North American Baptist Central Conference was named chairman of the fellowship, succeeding Duke K. McCall of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Discussion of the proposal of simultaneous and joint meetings of the various boards emphasized that Baptist ideals of religious liberty and human rights were significant in the founding of the new nation, and therefore the 1976 anniversary date would be appropriate.

Philadelphia, birthplace of the new nation, was mentioned as a possible meeting place.

The fellowship group, a committee of the Baptist World Alliance, interrupted its meeting to visit the White House where President Richard M. Nixon greeted each person and spoke to the group of the relationships of Christian ideals and America's national objectives.

During the committee discussion, outgoing chairman Duke K. McCall, president of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, traced the progress of the fellowship since it was organized in 1966 as an outgrowth of cooperation by various Baptist bodies during the Baptist Jubilee Ad-

vance emphasis from 1950-64.

"We have moved gently, gently through these past five years as we explored ways for fellowship and understanding," McCall said. "Now we have a relationship that enables us to plan together a little more venture-

somely.

"One of the most profitable things we have done is to provide a forum for those of our leaders who do similar jobs," he added. We thus have created an avenue for sharing."

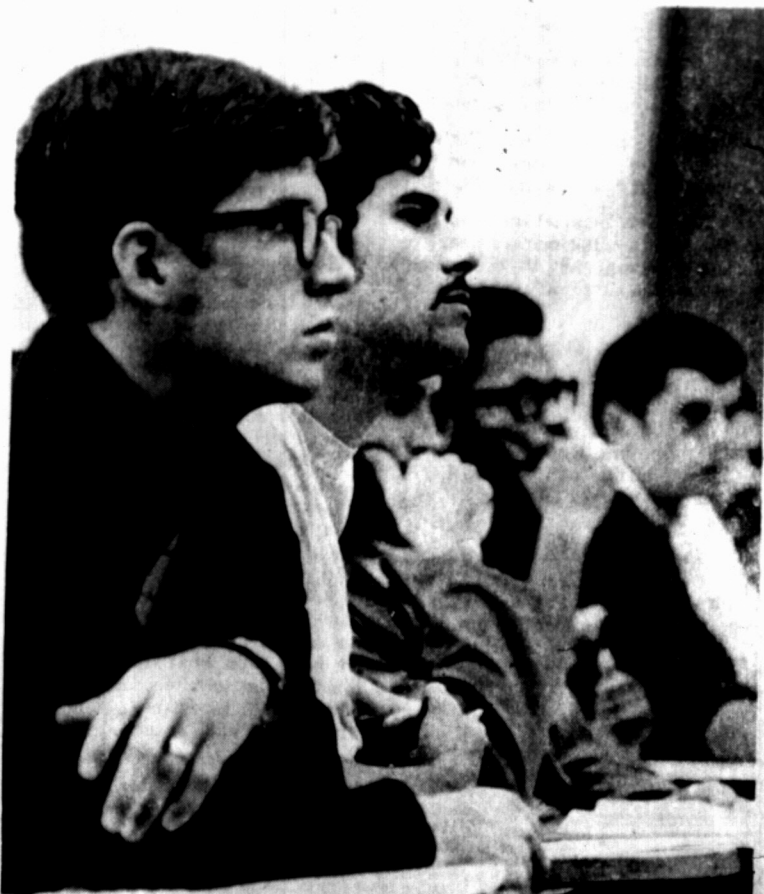
## INJURED JOURNEYMAN FLOWN FROM AFRICA TO DALLAS FOR TREATMENT

DALLAS (BP)—Southern Baptist missionary journeyman Larry V. Hughes, 24, of Tulsa, Okla., has been hospitalized at Baylor University Medical Center here after being seriously injured in a swimming accident in Malawi, Africa.

Hughes was accompanied on the flight from Malawi by two doctors from Blantyre, Malawi, one of the country's two surgeons and an anesthetist.

In spite of a severe shortage of doctors, Malawi's president Hastings Banda granted special permission for the two physicians to leave the country.

Hughes sustained a spinal dislocation and skull lacerations after diving into shallow water during an outing with other young people in Mlanje, Malawi. He was taken to a hospital in Blantyre, where a surgeon found a dislocation in the area of the third and fourth vertebrae.



## Student Night At Christmas

NASHVILLE—SNAC—Student Night at Christmas will provide an opportunity for students to communicate with their home churches about their faith and campus activities. Programs will include testimonies on a variety of student-related topics, all on the theme "Freedom to Be."



## Christmas, 1970

Again, Christmas has come to the world.

There is Christmas music in the air.

There is anticipation in the faces of children.

There is joy in the hearts of young and old.

There are crowded marts, and busy streets, as people buy to give and share.

Plans are being made for happy reunion as loved ones gather "home for Christmas."

Bright lights glitter everywhere, seeming to shout of glad news.

Mails are heavy with messages of love and cheer.

Trees stand in almost every home with their lights and tinsel.

The whole world seems to be filled with excitement, anxiously awaiting the year's most glorious day.

Yet if these are all that Christmas means to the world, it had as well not be.

The true meaning is far deeper than anything we have named.

Christmas means love.

Christmas means joy.

Christmas means hope.

Yet none of these explain Christmas.

It is not simply a day, but a person.

Christmas is Jesus Christ, the Son of God, coming to dwell among men.

Christmas is God coming in human flesh, the miracle of the ages.

Christmas is the day we have set to observe this most glorious of all of history's events.

Let it be proclaimed from every pulpit.

Let it be sung from every choir.

Let it be breathed in every prayer.

Christmas has come, Christmas 1970.

And in every year, as in the year one, Christmas means Christ!

Without Him there would be no Christmas.

Let us honor Him as we observe Christmas in this year, 1970.

"Joy to the World,

The Lord has Come."

### Guest Editorial

## Jesus, The Perfect Man

(Reprinted, as written by the late C. P. J. Mooney for The Commercial Appeal of Dec. 22, 1912.)

There is no other character in history like that of Jesus.

As a preacher, as a doer of things, and as a philosopher, no man ever had the sweep and vision of Jesus.

A human analysis of the human actions of Jesus brings to view a rule of life that is amazing in its perfect detail.

The system of ethics Jesus taught during His earthly sojourn 2,000 years ago was true, then, has been true in every century since and will be true forever.

Plato was a great thinker and learned in his age, but his teachings did not stand the test of time. In big things and in little things time and human experience has shown that he erred.

Marcus Aurelius touched the reflective mind of the world, but he was cold and austere as brown marble.

The doctrine of Confucius gave a great nation moral and mental dry rot.

The teachings of Buddha resulted in mental and moral chaos that makes India derelict.

Mohammed offered a system of ethics which was adopted by millions of people. Now their children live in deserts where once there were cities, along dry rivers where once there was moisture, and in the shadows of gray, barren hills where once there was greenness.

Thomas Aquinas was a profound philosopher, but parts of his system have been abandoned.

Francis of Assisi was Christ-like in his saintliness, but in some things he was childish.

Thomas a Kempis' Imitation of Christ is a thing of rare beauty and sympathy but it is, as its name indicates, only an imitation.

Sir Thomas More's Utopia is yet a dream that cannot be realized.

Lord Bacon, writing on chemistry and medicine under the glasses of the man working in a 20th Century laboratory, is putrile.

The world's most learned doctors until 150 years ago have dragon's blood and the ground dried tails of lizards and shells of eggs for certain ailments. The great surgeons a hundred years ago bled a man if he were wounded.

Napoleon had the world at his

feet for four years, and when he died the world was going on its way as if he had never lived.

Jesus taught little as to property because he knew there were things of more importance than property. He measured property and life, the body and soul, at their exact relative value. He taught much as to character, because character is of more importance than dollars.

Other men taught us to develop systems of government. Jesus taught us as to perfect the minds of men. Jesus looked to the soul, while other men dwelled on material things.

After the experience of 2,000 years, no man can find a flaw in the governmental system as outlined by Jesus.

Czar and kaiser, president and socialist, give to its complete merit their admiration.

No man today, no matter whether he follows the doctrine of Mills, Marx or George as to property, can find a false principle in Jesus' theory of property.

In the duty of a man to his fellows, no sociologist has ever approximated the perfection of the doctrine laid down by Jesus in His Sermon on the Mount.

Not all the investigations of chemists, not all the discoveries of explorers, not all the experiences of rulers, not all the historical facts that go to make up the sum of human knowledge on this day in 1912 are in contradiction to one word uttered or one principle laid down by Jesus.

The human experiences of 2,000 years show that Jesus never made a mistake. Jesus never uttered a doctrine that was true at that time and then became obsolete.

Jesus spoke the truth; He lived the truth; and truth is eternal.

History has no record of any other man leading a perfect life or doing everything in logical order. Jesus is the only person whose every action and whose every utterance strike a true note in the heart and mind of every man born of woman. He never said a foolish thing, never did a foolish act and never dissembled.

No poet, no dreamer, no philosopher loved humanity with the love that Jesus bore toward all men.

ho, then, was Jesus?

He could not have been merely a man, for there never was a man who had two consecutive thoughts absolute in truthful perfection.

Jesus must have been what Christendom proclaims Him to be—a divine being—or He could not have been what He was. No mind but an infinite mind could have left behind those things which Jesus gave to the world as a heritage.

### Christmas Carol

The earth has grown old with its burden of care,  
But at Christmas it always is young.  
The heart of the jewel burns lustrous and fair,  
And its soul full of music breaks forth on the air,  
When the song of the angels is sung.

It is coming, Old Earth, it is coming tonight!  
On the snow-flakes which cover thy sod  
The feet of the Christ-Child fall gentle and white,  
And the voice of the Christ-Child tells out with delight,  
That mankind are the children of God.

—Phillips Brooks (1869)



## THE BAPTIST FORUM

Rev. Albert Casteel  
Covets Your Prayers  
This Christmastime

Dear Mississippi Baptists:

At this Blessed Season of the year, in a special way, our thoughts dwell upon those who have meant so much to us through the years. How we would like to write each of you personally! But so many of you have played such a great part in our mission work that it is impossible to write each one individually. So, Dr. Odle has kindly consented to print our greetings to you.

It was a great disappointment that, due to my health, I had to cut short my planned tour to see many of you. I did keep my engagements at Tate Street Church in Corinth and at Blue Mountain College. Perhaps the Lord will enable me to make this tour at a later date.

As you know, I have been ill nearly two years, and we left the mission field in May when I became unable to carry on the work. June and July were furlough months, and on July 6 my condition was diagnosed as cancer. My doctor in Louisville recommended that we go to Vanderbilt University Hospital where I could be under the care of one of the nation's leading urologists. After a short stay in the hospital he ordered seven weeks of high voltage X-ray treatments. During this therapy, and after the low back pain did not abate, they did a radioisotope test and discovered a tumor in the S-1 joint of the pelvis. I was immediately given the maximum amount of radiotherapy in this area.

In October a neurosurgeon performed a coredotomy to relieve the pain, but this was only partially successful. The doctors say there is nothing more they can do. I am now under the care of an orthopedic surgeon who says that prayer is the only reason that my condition is not more deteriorated.

"No wonder we do not lose heart though our outward humanity is in decay, yet day by day we are inwardly renewed. (2 Cor. 4:16 NEB). "We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair. . . . cast down, but not destroyed (vs. 8-9 KJV). Truly our desire is that the life of Jesus might be made manifest in us.

We are now finishing thirteen years of mission work — eight in Montana and five in Puerto Rico. During this period we have seen 1,500 persons profess faith in Jesus Christ. We have organized seven churches and eight missions. You have had a part in all of this work.

May God richly bless each one of you. We covet your prayers.

Your missionary and friend,  
Albert M. Casteel  
3002 Dudley Ave.  
Nashville, Tenn. 37203

### Direct News From Missionaries To Jordan

Dear Friends:

So much has happened since we last wrote that it is hard to know where to begin. Miss Pruitt wrote for us telling what we evacuated Amman in June to Beirut after spending three days and nights on the hall floor while bullets smashed into the house. Virginia and the children took up residence in the Pattons' house in Beirut while the Pattons were on a 4 month furlough in the United States. Paul returned to Amman about 10 days later to continue work and also to move from our former residence to another section of

town to the house vacated by the W. O. Hens who were on furlough and would return to Egypt. The neighborhood we had lived in since 1965 was judged to be unsafe as it was headquarters area for many commando groups.

After completing the move, Paul returned to Beirut to prepare for the final meeting of the Arab Baptist Mission of Jordan, Lebanon and Egypt. After this meeting we all flew to Paris on August 7 to take delivery of a new Peugeot Station Wagon for the Jordan mission. We spent several nights with the Hal Lees, Baptist missionaries there, and then started our leisurely camping vacation through Bern, Zurich, Innsbruck, Salzburg, Vienna, Venice, Zagreb, Belgrade, Sofia, Istanbul, Ankara and to Beirut on September 5th. We enjoyed visiting missionaries in Zurich, Salzburg, and Ankara. While in Ankara Paul and Tim got to go pike fishing with missionary Jim Leeper where they caught 10 in about 3 hours.

While John Hens family also were returning from their vacation in Dahran, Saudi Arabia so we drove down to Ajloun together September 8. We arrived in Irbid, Jordan in time to get caught in a cross-fire between the Army and commandos. We were finally able to get to Ajloun via Jarash that night. It was our intention to spend the night in Ajloun and go on to our home in Amman. However, we quickly recognized that the situation was very bad in the country and we decided to return to Beirut. Dr. Fitzgerald and his family, the family of Dr. Lovegren and our family left for Beirut the 10th. Dr. Lovegren soon followed to get his family settled in Beirut as did the family of Dr. Roper. When Dr. Lovegren returned to Ajloun the 15th, Dr. Roper left the evening of the 16th with Miss Jeannine Grisham, our journeyman in Ajloun. They found the border post at Ramtha deserted, already having been through a battle. This left Dr. Lovegren, Miss Popp and Miss Perryman in Ajloun when the battle erupted at 5:00 a.m. the 17th.

Dr. Roper frantically tried to return but could not until the 23rd, when he flew in on the U.S. evacuation plane. He was unable to get to Ajloun which was completely cut off from the outside world so he opened an emergency hospital for the Red Cross in a Roman Catholic school in Amman. Paul returned via Red Cross flight on the 29th and began to help Dr. Roper in the hospital along with a British and an Italian priest. Paul found our home occupied with Bedouin soldiers who stole over \$2,000 worth of things from our home. The old home vacated in July was severely damaged by cannon fire and one of our immediate neighbors was killed and two were shot in the legs. The worst hit area was our old neighborhood, almost every home had sustained hits by cannon shells.

On October 3, Dr. Roper and Paul conveyed with a Red Cross team from Abu Dhabi and drove to Ajloun. We were the first to travel to Ajloun from Amman since the war began, and as we passed the holes left in the road from the removal of land mines, we hoped it would not be our last trip! The hospital and staff were fine in Ajloun but still in the hands of the commandos. Dr. Roper remained there while Paul returned to supervise the distribution of relief supplies made available by the Foreign Mission Board, flown in from Beirut by Dr. Fitzgerald in a chartered cargo plane.

We need your prayers this year in a special way, for Paul will be in Jordan two-thirds of the time and Virginia and the children will be in Beirut. There is no hope of our family living together in Amman this year as neither the American Community nor



A Woman's World Reaches Far

## Beyond the Ironing Board

—Wilda Fancher—

### I Heard The Angels Sing

It must have taken weeks of labor. A few feelings must have been ruffled along with a few feathers, but the wonder of it all came through. I heard the angelic hosts sing, "Glory to God!" I felt the fear of the shepherds. It was just a spotlight, but to me, it was surely the Star of the East. The voice belonged to somebody's Daddy — not mine because he was the big bass sound in the choir — but I was sure it was a real angel's voice talking. I blinkingly and breathlessly listened as it said, "Fear not, for behold I bring you good tidings of great joy. . . ."

Not one word spoken by the shepherds was lost to my ears, and I was quick to follow those sheet-clad figures all the way to Bethlehem, where I gazed, open-mouthed, with them at the manger where the Babe lay. Once, I even stood among the

host of angels with coathanger wings and Christmas tinsel halo — and I have never quite got away from the delicious feeling that it was.

There has never been devised a lovelier or more graphic way to tell the story of Jesus' birth, so far as I am concerned, than the live pageantry with bathrobed Wise Men and all the other improvised costumes and props that the folks in my church used at each Christmastime when I was a little girl. It is so marvelous to be, while young and impressionable, in the midst of good people who do good things. One never quite gets over it, and that is good.

Loss of improvisation has robbed my children of a great deal of joy. Giggles would greet such an ill-staged spectacular in the modern rent-a-costume and hire-an-orchestra world our boys live in. And I really am sorry about that.

## NEW BOOKS

INVITATION TO DIALOGUE: THE PROFESSIONAL WORLD by John Hendrix (Broadman, paper, 126 pp., 188 pp., \$4.95)

A guide for Christian professional people in facing ethical problems. Included are discussions by professionals in the areas of church, education, medicine, psychiatry, counseling, law, politics, business, the military, and sports. After each chapter discussion, there is a professional response and then suggestions for group dialogue.

PUT YOUR ARMS AROUND THE CITY by James W. Angell (Revell, 188 pp., \$4.95)

Fleming H. Revell, Co. offered a \$10,000 centennial award to encourage the creation of inspirational literature. This is the first place winner. The author is James W. Angell, a Presbyterian pastor in California. What happens when people move from rural areas into the metropolises of modern America? How is it to live in an urban situation where you hardly know your neighbors and where you are practically unknown? How about survival, loneliness, secularism? What does faith mean in the city? How is the church meeting needs of the various groups of people crowded together in the metropolises. This is an unusual book. It is written by a pastor who serves in one of America's most congested areas. It is in vivid illustration and provoking paragraphs of the ministry of the church to modern America.

ONE WAY TO CHANGE THE WORLD by Leighton Ford (Harper & Row, 19 pp., \$3.95)

The author, who is Billy Graham's brother-in-law, and a member of the Graham team, and a great preacher in his own right, discusses the present world situation and the responsibility of the Christian to try to change it. He discusses Christian living, as it relates to such subjects as love, morality, and others. The book deals with all of the problems facing today's world and shows the place which God expects the Christian to fill in this world.

The International School will open. The U.S. Embassy is not allowing their staff to bring their families and very few other foreign families are in Amman. To be of maximum service to the Lord and an effective witness is very difficult when our family is physically divided.

The Lord was very good to all His followers in Jordan, for none of the "believers" were killed and only two were wounded, our pastor in Zarka and his son. Pray for these followers of Christ during these days of tension and troubles. Pray that God will protect our king, his country, and people and somehow lead him to bring peace to this troubled land.

We have been very much troubled by persistent reports that we should not begin any new projects for the Lord due to the fact that the church support for Foreign Missions is continuing to slacken. This comes at a very crucial time for us in the Arab world for it is just at this time that we are seeing the door crack open a bit. Pray that our people shall continue to be increasingly concerned with the lost people of the world.

Our mail should be addressed: P.O. Box 5232, Beirut, Lebanon.

Paul and Virginia Smith (EDITOR'S NOTE: We receive many missionary letters but are able to find space only for those which are of special importance. Because of its direct report from Jordan we are publishing this one.)

## MasterControl Commentary

Consult the station guide for broadcast time in your area.

### "Giving At Christmas"

By Kenneth Chafin

You've probably bought many Christmas presents for your children. It seems that Christmas starts so early that even in December it's too late to make suggestions. But I wonder if I might make a couple of suggestions about gifts for your children that are often overlooked.

First, give your children an awareness and an understanding of the religious significance of Christmas. Let me suggest that you start a new family tradition. Several years ago we bought a very inexpensive nativity set. Then each fall as we begin to take out all of the decorations and go through the elaborate ceremony of decorating the Christmas tree, we let the children set up the nativity set and we read through the Christmas stories that tell of the birth of Jesus Christ. Sometimes we sing Christmas carols, sometimes we have a prayer. This has become very much a part of getting ready for Christmas and it's been a great deal of help in interpreting to our children the real meaning of Christmas. Maybe this Christmas you would like to start a new family tradition at your house.

Let me make a second suggestion. This year give to your children the most expensive gift of all — give yourself. Some years ago I was getting ready to go back to school to speak to a group of parents. My daughter Nancy said, "Are you going to be home tonight, Daddy?" I told her I wasn't. She pursued the conversation by asking what I was going to do. I told her I was going to give a talk on what a good daddy was like. This didn't impress her so in order to pacify her I tried to involve her in my talk. I suggested that maybe while we were eating supper she could help me with my talk by suggesting what she thought a good daddy was like. I got a piece of paper and pencil and all during the meal she would come and whisper in my ear various aspects of what she thought a good daddy was: a good daddy can build a fire, a good daddy can catch a fish, a good daddy can fly a kite, a good daddy can catch a butterfly. When my list was completed, it suddenly dawned upon me that there wasn't anything on the list that required me to buy anything but everything on the list required me. I wonder if at Christmas time we don't go out and spend a lot of money on presents that our children didn't need and may not even be appreciated. The thing they most desperately want and need is us. Wouldn't it be good at that time of the year when we celebrate God's gift of His Son that we would learn a little better how to give ourselves to our children.

### The Baptist Record

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# Ten Very Helpful Hints For Adding To The Glow And Joy And Happiness Of The Christmas Season

By Hight C. Moore  
"The Teacher"  
December, 1940

I  
The first thing you want to do is to locate Christmas. We do not mean the day of the week or month, for the calendar attends to that. But locate it in this year of grace — not in any other year in your life, nor any other year since the Christ child lay in the manger. Locate it in the midst of this turbulent, transitional era of the world which so misunderstands the Christmas idea and has so warped it out of its setting. Locate it in your life so that it may be an outstanding holiday as you travel down the years.

II  
Then think it through. Do not drift into it as a canoe floats down a river or a boat rocks shoreward or seaward on the tides of ocean.

Contemplate Christmas. Meditate upon its meaning and message. See what there is in Christmas for you; particularly what there is in this Christmas for you.

III  
Catch the holiday spirit. Let the tension of toil relax a bit. Get out of the swirl for a moment. Open Eargate to something else besides the din of traffic. Release the fettered spirit. Sun the soul. A good holiday is a holy day, and holy because happy.  
Rejoice!

IV  
Determine to have a good good time. Often a "good time" at Christmas is a bad time. There may be a streak of fun in it, but the rind of it is bitter and the heart of it is rotten. And not only can we have a genuine good time but we positively ought to do so. It is wrong to be wry-

faced and sour. It is right to be rollicking in season. Chastened pleasures are cultural and edifying. But to have them we must plan them. Put high purpose, then, in your holiday pleasures.

V  
Spread the spirit of cheer. Who can resist the beams of a beaming face? The radiation of joy is irresistible. One's very walk shows it. Personal magnetism rises to its maximum. The ring of the cheery word is like the tang of mountain air.

VI  
The helping hand is often the secret of Christmas happiness. You are having a merry Christmas, but not everybody else is. How about the sick lad on his bed over yonder? How about the crippled girl who cannot skip with you through the snow and skate with you over the ice? How

about the feeble and infirm old people in the neighborhood who feel neglected and detached from the glow and joy of young life? How about the sad ones in the community? As you help them, the joy - light in your own bosom flames higher and brighter.

VII  
It is a good time to straighten out the kinks that have tangled your life during the year. The harsh word you spoke which went like a knife to the soul — you have never sought pardon for it, as certainly you expect to do some time; when will you find a better time to make it right? And is there any coldness between you and anyone else? Melt it before the glowing Christmas fires and never let it freeze again!

Peace in the heart, peace in the

home, peace with everybody everywhere — peace on earth!

VIII  
Are there some things that would better be left untouched and unmentioned? Then let bygones be bygones. Bury differences under the Christmas snow and let them sleep quietly beneath the mantle of white. The great apostle says something about forgetting the things which are behind. So let us forget what we ought to forget. Harboring grudges is poor business. The big road of life beckons us onward.

IX  
So break out of the year's rut in which you have been running for these weeks and months. Get out of the groove.

Play an hour. Spend a day in lighter vein. Pass a good word with the neighbors. Take time to look upward. Consecrate your rejuvenated and exuberant self to God. Perhaps he can use you even better when you are aglow with Christmas joy than when you are sweating at your usual task. Try it and see. X  
Of course you will turn the pages of the grand old Book and reread the Christmas story told by Matthew and Luke in verses which sparkle like the stars that shone on the wise men and which phonograph to us the angel voices heard by the shepherds in the fields of Bethlehem. They are the Christmas classics.

## Celebration Of Christmas In The Congo

By Lily W. Jenks  
Missionary of the British Baptist Missionary Society

As the Christian faith has not been in Congo a hundred years, and the way of life is so different, Christmas there is naturally somewhat unlike ours in its external manifestation, though just like ours in its great joy and real meaning.

The celebration varies a little from place to place but it is always centered in the Christian Church. The commercialization of the festival has not yet reached Central Africa.

This is what often happens. On Christmas Eve Christians will flock to their village chapel or large city church where right through the night they will sing untiringly of the Saviour's coming. There will be our well-loved carol tunes and African rhythmical settings to the Bible words with the accompaniment of drums and other instruments.

Worn out but happy the folk wend their way home by the light of their oil lamps. Refreshed by a few hours' sleep and a drink of tea, and clad in their new clothes (if possible they all like to have a new length of cloth or shirt) they later return to the church for more singing and a good preaching service.

This is a great evangelistic opportunity, for many will come who never enter the church at other times. The building — mud or brick — is sure to be decorated with palm fronds and with paper charms in the eaves, and gay flowers such as the

red hibiscus or poinsettia. The "piece de resistance" is the Christmas story acted often at great length. (This may have been on Christmas Eve.) With the comical side rather unexpectedly popping its way in, one is reminded of what the Middle Ages Miracle Plays must have been like.

There seems no end to the number of little children squeezing their way in to gaze wide-eyed with wonder at the brightly clothed actors and to listen spell-bound to their words.

After the long service followed by joyous greetings comes the eating part, either in the homes or sometimes the Christians will eat together under an open-air palm frond shelter specially built for the occasion. There is as yet no traditional food for the Congo Christmas meal. Indeed, some of the people may have had quite a struggle to get a reasonably good meal together at all.

In village centres the young people may enjoy a football match in the afternoon. While some older folk look on, others will stroll about to chat here and there with friends resting in or outside their houses.

Some of them will be reading the Christmas story in the attractive illustrated leaflet prepared by the Bible Society and eagerly accepted at the close of the church service.

If there is a mission hospital or dispensary nearby, the local church will probably have brought the message of Christmas to the patients in song,

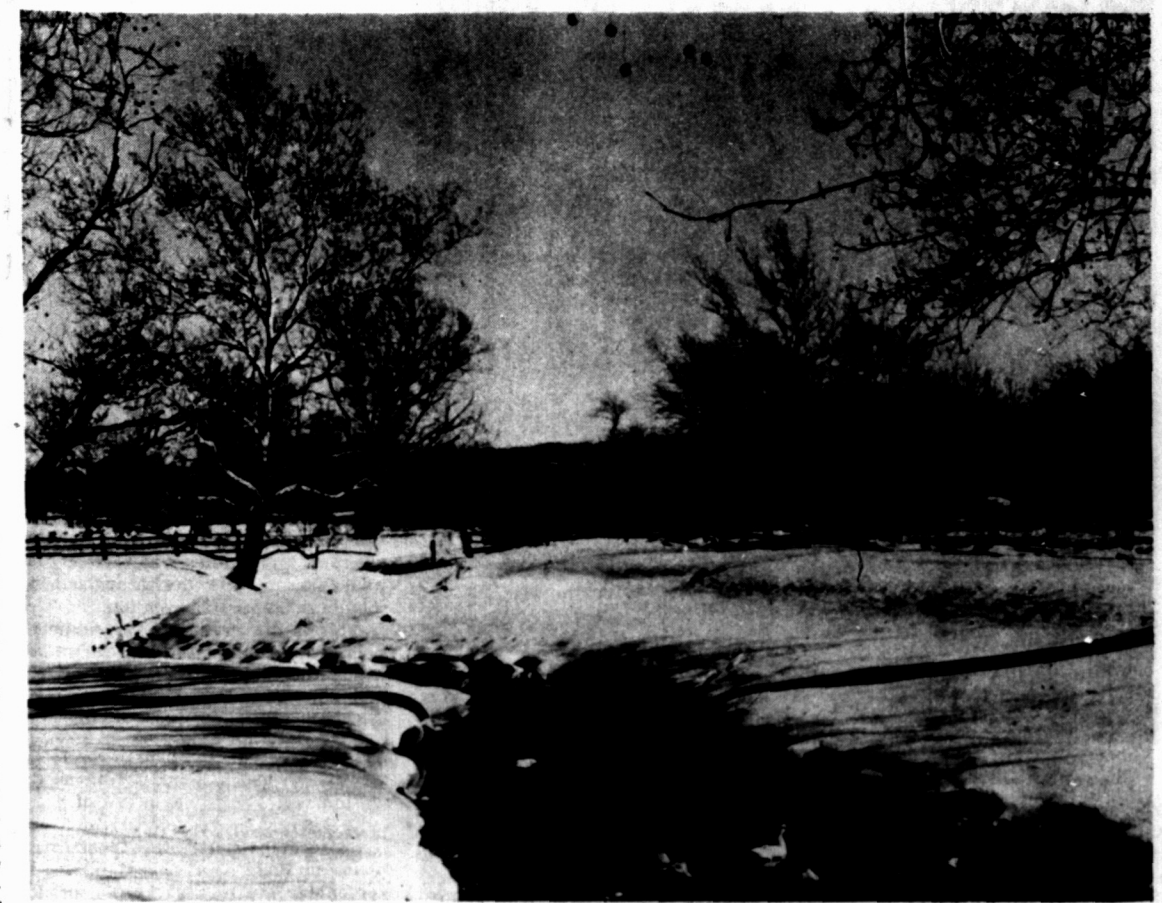
word and gift, be the last ever so small. A gaily-striped vest sent from abroad by a kind friend will rejoice some little child's heart at Christmas and a blanket will bring comfort to big brother maybe lying ill.

So comes the evening. While some people will spend it in riotous revelry, most of the Christians in villages or cities under the stars of the tropical night sky will gather their children round them and thank God once more for having sent them "the bright and morning star," Jesus the Saviour, Light of the World. (EBPS) (Courtesy BMS Publication, "Missionary Herald")

### The Organ

The organ has been used in church worship and Christmas song since 450 A.D. (Spain was first to use it for Christian worship.) One of the greatest Christmas traditions, Handel's *The Messiah*, is customarily sung with organ accompaniment; another classic Christmas composition, *Silent Night*, was the work of Austrian church organist Franz Guber.

CHRISTMAS, the season of love and charity, has always fostered giving to the poor. In England, on the day after Christmas, clergymen used to open the church alms-boxes and distribute the money to the needy. Later, it became customary to give boxes of money on that day to people who had worked for you during the year. December 26 is still known as *Boxing Day* in Britain.



"Snow-Stars . . . Like Spangles . . . From . . . The Milky Way"

"... delicate snow-stars, out of the cloud, come floating downward in airy play, like spangles dropped from the glistening crowd that whiten by night the milky way."—William Cullen Bryant (1794-1873) (RNS Photo)



## How Far Is It To Bethlehem?

By Johnstone G. Patrick  
"How far is it to Bethlehem?" O shepherds, you should know, For long ago you saw the light across the fields of snow; Angelic songs afrighted you, the light your footsteps led, And you were first to worship by the little Lambkin's bed.

"How far is it to Bethlehem?" O wise men onward ride, 'Tis many miles to Bethlehem across the desert wide; His star is bright above you, for joy his angel sings, Ride on and faith will lead you to the little King of kings.

"How far is it to Bethlehem?" O nations you should know, You missed the way to Bethlehem two thousand years ago; Yet those who seek may find it through their faith and love and tears— The old lost road to Bethlehem still running down the years.

"How far is it to Bethlehem?" 'Tis many miles away, Two thousand years have spread their mists between us and that day; Yet still the way is shining through the murky mist and rain, And friends go forth to find him, and the desert blooms again.

"How far is it to Bethlehem?" As far as men desire, Who walk the way God wills for them with heart and mind afire; For to find the One they're seeking they need no man-made chart— The stable-shrine of Bethlehem is hidden in each heart!—(RNS Photo)

### Let Us Kneel With Mary Maid

Before the palling of the stars,  
Before the winter morn,  
Before the earliest cockcrow,  
Jesus Christ was born:  
Born in a stable,  
Cradled in a manger,  
In the world his hands had made,  
Born a stranger.

Priest and king lay fast asleep  
In Jerusalem,  
Young and old lay fast asleep  
In crowded Bethlehem:  
Saint and angel, ox and ass,  
Kept a watch together,  
Before the Christmas daybreak  
In the winter weather.

Jesus on his mother's breast  
In the stable cold,  
Spotless Lamb of God was he,  
Shepherd of the fold.  
Let us kneel with Mary Maid,  
With Joseph bent and hoary,  
With saint and angel, ox and ass,  
To hail the King of Glory.  
—Christina Rossetti

### Verse For The Week

And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.—Luke 2:7

### Nativity

Immensely cloyed in thy dear womb,  
Now leaves his welbelov'd imprisonment.  
There he hath made himself to his intent  
Weake enough, now into our world to come;  
But Oh, for thee, for him, hath th' Inne no room?  
Yet lay him in this stall, and from the Orient,  
Starres, and wisemen will travell to prevent  
Th' effect of Herod's jealous generall doome.  
Seest thou, my Soule, with thy faith's eyes,  
how he  
Which fills all place, yet none holds him, doth  
lie?  
Was not his pity towards thee wondrous high.  
That would have need to be pittied by thee?  
Knease him, and with him into Egypt goe.  
With his kinde mother, who partakes thy woe.  
—John Donne (1573-1631)

### The Scene In The Stable

I know you have heard the story of Jesus' birth many times, but I am going to tell you my version of it.  
Now, I am a stable building, the one in which Christ was born. I sat there next to the inn, dozing. The night was dark and black; the city was quiet. The steady clop of a distant donkey vibrated my weatherworn timbers.  
The two sheep under my shelter chewed the hay on my floor, while the cow slept peacefully in a corner. Now, the donkey's steps were close, and as the donkey trudged past me, I discerned a rider and a man walking beside them.  
They reached the door of the inn I work for, and requested entrance. The keeper at the door informed them that there were no vacancies. So the man turned the donkey back in my direction. They came into me and dismounted. The man placed his wife on the hay, and let his donkey eat hay in the

corner. The man's name was Joseph and his wife's name was Mary. I guessed that they had come to Bethlehem to pay their taxes.  
Well, as they seemed harmless enough, I decided to sleep a while. Now, imagine my amazement when I awoke minutes later to discover that the woman had brought forth a son, and he was lying in my manger! I could hardly believe it! But it was true!  
Well, I stared at the child for a while, until several shepherds approached. They said that they had been sent by an angel, to see the Saviour called Christ. They were greatly excited, overflowing with joy. I have never seen happier, more exuberant faces than the shepherds' faces.  
I could not fully understand their gladness, for, being made of uprooted wood, it meant little to me; yet, I somehow sensed an overwhelming surge of Goodness and Hope and Love in the world.  
—Gary Thomas Meek, Age 14, First, Gulfport

### December

It was—so say the books, if I remember—  
The cold and frosty season of December.  
—Geoffrey Chaucer (about 1340-1400)

If God were to come with His angels, no one could listen to Him...  
We cannot hear to have God speak to us in His majesty with countless thousands of angels. Therefore the best procedure is to abolish our design to hear God speak in His majesty, for we cannot hear this language. But God says: Now I shall hide My majesty, most thoroughly shall allow My Son to become man, born of a virgin, let Him do good to men and preach them the forgiveness of sins. He shall act in the kindest manner possible; only hear in mind that this man is the same God who spoke in the desert at Mount Sinai to the Children of Israel. Believe, therefore, that it is He whom you are hearing. He has hidden His majesty in humanity; does not appear with lightning, thunder, or angels, but as one born of a poor virgin and speaking with men of the forgiveness of sins.  
Martin Luther

### Voices In The Mist

The time draws near the birth of Christ;  
The moon is hid; the night is still;  
The Christmas bells from hill to hill  
Answer each other in the mist.  
Each voice four changes on the wind,  
That now dilate, and now decrease,  
Peace and goodwill, goodwill and peace,  
Peace and goodwill, to all mankind!  
—Alfred, Lord Tennyson (1809-1892)

### Christmas, 1608

"Wind, rain, frost, and snow caused us to keep Christmas amongst the Savages, where we were never more merrier, nor fedde on more plenty of good oysters, fish, flesh, wild fowle, and good bread, nor never had better fires in England. . . . So John Smith wrote of the few days he and his men spent with the natives at the end of December 1608 when he was seeking provisions of the Indian chief, Powhatan.



THIS NATIVITY SCENE of the Three Wise Men enroute to Bethlehem was painted on silk by the Chinese artist Lucas Ch'en.—(RNS Photo)



## Ghana Needs Missions Volunteers Now!

The Ghana Baptist Mission's executive committee discussed its "desperate personnel situation" during its November meeting.

Curtailment or closing down of several areas of mission work in Ghana was forecast unless permanent or temporary volunteers can be found immediately.

The committee noted particular needs for a missionary couple to be resident superintendents at a Baptist

women's camp and for a hospital in northern Ghana.

"Concerns voiced by the Ghana Mission are typical of many being received from African missions," said H. Cornell Goerner, secretary for Africa for the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board. "Needs and opportunities far outnumber available staff personnel. If more of these needs were known, there would be more response of dedicated lives."

## STATE SENATE REFUSES LIQUOR LICENSES FOR CHURCH GROUPS

HARRISBURG, Pa. (RNS)—The Pennsylvania Senate has rejected a bill that would have permitted issuance of special liquor licenses to church groups for picnics and bazaars.

Approved earlier by the House of Representatives, 107 to 83, the measure was opposed by the Pennsylvania Tavern Association.



### For Unto You... Is Born A Savior

For unto you is born this day in the City of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord, and this shall be a sign unto you: Ye shall find the Babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace good will toward men."—Luke (RNS Photo)

## First, Wiggins, Sets Its Largest LM Goal

First Church, Wiggins, recently adopted the largest goal in its history for the annual foreign missions offering, according to the pastor, Rev. J. Ray Grissett.

The goal for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for foreign missions is \$1,400. In addition, the church specifically supports Dr. L. Byron Harbin, a missionary to Brazil, in the amount of his base salary of \$2,000 annually. The amount needed presently for this projects slightly over \$1,200, and the two offerings combined make the church's goal this year \$2,726.46.

Some groups have made plans to sponsor special means of raising the offering: The Acteens sold cookies; the Senior Adults took mission offerings to their Christmas party instead of exchanging gifts; and the Youth will sell their services for yard and house work on December 19.

In the sanctuary a large board showing a world map encircled by Christmas tree bulbs will show the total given as the offering comes in. A bulb will be turned on each time \$25 is received toward the goal. There is also an honor plaque showing groups who have met their goal.

As of last Sunday, \$300 had come in, and the emphasis will continue throughout December or until the total goal is reached.

### Hey! That's Six Weeks Early

Dr. Willis G. Bennett, director of placement at Southern Seminary in Louisville, Ky., and Dr. Larry McSwain, assistant director of placement, are working against a Dec. 18 deadline when 111 new Southern Seminary graduates will be ready for placement in churches throughout the Southern Baptist Convention.

This is the first time the seminary has held graduation before Christmas, thus, moving the placement office's deadline from late January to mid-December. Though many of the graduates already have jobs, Bennett said a number of the soon-to-be graduates are still available for work in the churches. Interested churches should write Bennett or McSwain at the seminary's address: 2825 Lexington Rd., Louisville, Ky. 40206. Their phone number is (502) 897-4118.

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## Sunday Shopping Booming In Detroit

DETROIT (RNS)—The trend toward "business as usual" on Sunday seems to be increasing in the Detroit area as major retail stores in suburban malls open their doors to Sunday shoppers.

Sears, Roebuck & Co. opened recently for the first time on Sunday, the last major retail chain in this area to do so. Most of the smaller stores in malls dominated by major chains have followed suit through economic necessity.

A random sampling of area clergymen conducted by the Detroit Free Press indicated that Sunday shopping has not hurt church attendance. It was noted that most stores do not open until noon.

However, Free Press readers re-

sponding to the question of the day, "Should department stores remain open on Sunday?" voted against sabbath shopping. Sixty-four per cent of the respondents voted "no."

Among comments of the "no" voters were these: "People should stay home with their families Sundays. I don't have any money on Sundays anyway. It's one more step toward moral bankruptcy. My wife spends enough money on the other six days. The big department stores are driving the little stores out of business."

Comments by the "yes" voters included: "The stores can get more money on Sundays. Some people can only get away to shop on Sundays. No one's being forced to shop on Sunday. Let the free enterprise

system remain free. Why should we stop shopping Sundays because of someone else's religious views?"

Although the effects of Sunday shopping on the living patterns of Detroit and suburban residents has not been determined, Troy City Commissioner John Kokalis is among officials who have expressed concern.

He is trying to get local communities to pass Sunday-closing ordinances—not for religious reasons, but to slow the pace of life and give families a time to be together.

"We don't have an opportunity to rest, to evaluate ourselves, to think about what is happening," Mr. Kokalis said. "Are we so selfish that we must spend seven days a week, 24 hours a day getting a buck?"

## Names In The News

Rev. and Mrs. Elton P. Gray, missionary associates who are completing missionary orientation, may be addressed c/o Mrs. J. B. Eavenson, 300 Walnut St., Marks, Miss. 38646, from Dec. 10-28. They will depart for their first term in Okinawa around Dec. 28. Gray is a native of Loretto, Tenn.; Mrs. Gray is the former Dottie Eavenson of Marks. They were employed by the Foreign Mission Board last July.

Rev. Ray E. Bell was ordained on November 7 by the Improve Church, Marion Association, to the gospel ministry. Mr. Bell is serving as chaplain at the Columbia Training School, Columbia. He is a graduate of William Carey College and has attended seminary. He is married and he and his wife Joann reside on the campus at Columbia. Rev. Tommy Jones is pastor at Improve.



Mrs. John W. Mrister, left, has been awarded her pin for ten years perfect attendance in Sunday school at First Church, Rosedale. Above, right, the pastor, Rev. R. M. Garsee, makes the presentation.

A Mississippi College English major has been appointed to the editorial board of the National Sigma Tau Delta magazine. Roger Smith, a senior from Leonia, Fla., and son of Mr. and Mrs. Lane D. Smith of Leonia, was appointed to the four-man board for this school year. Sigma Tau Delta is an honorary English fraternity which admits only juniors and seniors who have a "B" average or better.

Rev. Cecil Clegg, pastor of Mt. Olive Church, Mississippi Association for the past 1½ years, has resigned to accept the position as pastor of Mathiston Church, Mathiston. A graduate of Mississippi College and New Orleans Seminary, he is married to the former Ann Butt of Macon, Georgia and they have one son, Troy, 8 months old.

Dr. H. Fred Williams, former Mississippi pastor, has resigned the pastorate of First Church, Arcadia, Florida; to become Superintendent of Missions for the Royal Palm Baptist Association, effective January 1. His pastorate has included Glade, Laurel; East Howard, Biloxi; First, Winter Garden, Florida; and Arcadia's First Church. Dr. Williams is a graduate of five Southern Baptist colleges, universities, and seminaries—Clarke College, Mississippi College, New Orleans Seminary, Stetson University, and Luther Rice Seminary. He is at present Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Luther Rice

Seminary, Jacksonville, Florida, and an instructor for off-campus college credit courses offered by Stetson University in southwest Florida. Mrs. Williams holds degrees from Blue Mountain College and the University of South Florida and is chairman of the Social Studies Department of DeSoto County High School, Arcadia. They have four children—Dana, 16; Daryle, 15; Danise, 12; and David, 8. The family will reside in Fort Myers, Florida.

Mrs. Russell Naron passed away Saturday, December 12, at 9 a.m. and the funeral was conducted in Natchez, December 14, at 2:30 p.m. Her husband, Rev. Russell Naron, is pastor of Oak Hill Church, Rt. 2, Poplarville, Miss.

### Moss Point Calls Pastor

First Church, Moss Point has called Rev. Bobby C. Perry as pastor. Born in Heflin, Alabama and reared in Attalla, Alabama, Mr.

Perry has a B.A. degree from William Carey College, and Th. M. degree from New Orleans Seminary. He was ordained by Signal Hill Church, Chattanooga, Tennessee. He moved to First

Moss Point, after nearly four years at Calvary Church, West Point.

He is past state chaplain for Mississippi Districts, Civitan International, and is now President of the Mississippi Alumni of New Orleans Seminary.

The Perrys have two children, Stephen, 13, and Cathy, 12.

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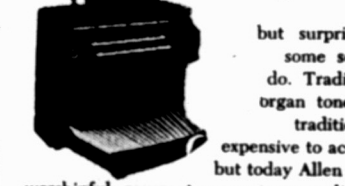
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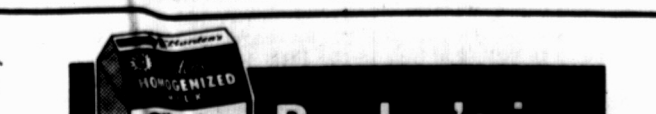
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# At Centennial, West Honors Three Baptist Leaders From The Past

Three deceased leaders of Mississippi Baptists were recognized and honored through the adoption of resolutions during 100th anniversary services of West Baptist Church on Nov.

The three — Drs. P. I. Lipsey, A. Goodrich, and W. T. Lowrey — lived the West Church as pastor. The resolution jointly naming the church's library in memory of Drs.

Lipsey and Goodrich, read as follows: "WHEREAS, Drs. Plautus Iberus Lipsey (1865-1947) and Arthur Leon Goodrich (1891-1956) edited the Baptist Record (1912-41 and 1941-56, respectively);

"WHEREAS, as editors of the official journal of the Mississippi Baptist Convention, these called men of God were dedicated to the task of collecting, digesting, and distributing read-

ing matter of a religious nature for the purpose of informing, enlightening, and inspiring readers, Mississippi Baptists, in particular;

"WHEREAS, Dr. Lipsey was himself an author and Dr. Goodrich was an officer of religious press associations;

"WHEREAS, both men were ministers and served the West Baptist Church as pastor (Dr. Lipsey in 1918;

Dr. Goodrich in 1947-48);

"WHEREAS, the West Baptist Church is interested, as were Drs. Lipsey and Goodrich, in collecting and making available reading material which will inform, enlighten, and inspire;

"WHEREAS, the membership of this church wishes to honor the memories of Drs. Lipsey and Goodrich because of their distinguished records

of consecrated Christian service;

"THEREFORE, be it resolved that the library of the West Baptist Church be known from this time forth as the Lipsey-Goodrich Memorial Library."

The resolution naming an adult Bible class in memory of Dr. Lowrey read:

"WHEREAS, Dr. William Tyndale Lowrey (1858-1944) was president of Blue Mountain College (1885-98, 1911-25), Mississippi College (1898 - 1911),

Hillman College, Gulf Coast Military Academy, and Clarke College;

"WHEREAS, Dr. Lowrey was head of the Department of Ancient Languages (1927-29) at State Teachers College, now the University of Southern Mississippi;

"WHEREAS, Dr. Lowrey was an outstanding Baptist minister and served the West Baptist Church as pastor from March 17, 1935, until July 15, 1937;

"WHEREAS, Dr. Lowrey, as minister, teacher, and college president, was dedicated to the task of impart-

Continued On Page 8

## SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

THE INTERNATIONAL LESSON — LIFE AND WORK CURRICULUM  
Observing Christmas As Christians The Eternal Christ

By Clifton J. Allen

John 1:1-18

"God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him." His coming made a difference. The world has never been the same since. The light keeps on shining in the darkness, and the darkness has never been able to put it out. The coming of Jesus is the reason for the celebration of Christmas. His incarnation and saving work is the foundation of the Christian faith. How appropriate, therefore, that we turn to the prologue of the fourth Gospel to study this sublime statement affirming the fact and interpreting the meaning of the incarnation of Jesus Christ. The eternal Word, who was the agent of God in creation and who was the source of light and life, became a man on earth in order to become the Saviour of the world.

The Lesson Explained  
REJECTION AND ACCEPTANCE (vv. 9-13)

All that the inspired writer says in these verses points to Jesus, who was the Word become flesh. Also, that he says is based on the fact that the Word was with God, and the Word was God. Jesus was the true light, the real light. His life was the source of light in the conscience of every person coming into the world. And the light which shone out from a person and from his teachings was all that was needed to guide men the right way in the world. How strange that the world, which was made by him, did not recognize him! The eyes of men were blinded by their ignorance and perversity and love of the darkness.

The writer of the Gospel says that Jesus "came unto his own." He came to Palestine, to the land of God's chosen people, to his own kindred; but his own people failed to recognize him and rejected him. He declared the word of God to them, but they did not hear. He revealed the glory of God to them, but they did not see. He was God's Son in their midst, but they would not receive him. With hearts hardened by pride and unbelief, they rejected their long-promised Messiah. But there were individuals who did receive him. There were some who accepted him as Christ of God, as the Redeemer from heaven. They believed in his name. To them Jesus gave the right to become the children of God. They would not claim this right by national privilege or racial privilege or personal righteousness. They were received by faith on the basis of God's free grace, and became children by new birth through the will and power of God. Jesus Christ is the only way of life and light and salvation. He does not force acceptance; he must be received by humble faith.

TRUTH IN HUMANITY (vv. 14-15)  
Verse 14 is the key verse of this Gospel. It declares the amazing fact of the incarnation of Jesus Christ. God came into the world in his Son. The eternal Word became a man. The incarnation was historic fact, was absolute reality, and was complete identification with humanity. In the incarnation we have incomparable mystery. The impossible became possible and actual by the power of God. God took the form of man and became a man among men. At the same time, he was full of grace and truth, incorporating in his person the goodness of God and the full revelation of God, so that men saw in him the glory of God, the glory of the divine nature, and the glory of self-giving love. We know what God is like, because Jesus Christ was God manifest in humanity.

GRACE AND TRUTH (vv. 16-18)  
Jesus Christ came to impart grace and truth to men. Those who have believed in him can declare that they have received the abundant fullness of God's grace, God's unmerited favor bestowed on sinful men through Christ. The law was given through Moses; it fulfilled its purpose. Jesus came as the mediator of grace—"grace for grace"—abundant grace, grace for every sin and every need, riches of grace. Complementing grace, truth was revealed in fullness and in finality in Christ. He was himself the truth, the perfect revelation of God and of God's will for man. What a paradox

in verse 18! We cannot see God with ordinary sight. We are not worthy to look upon the glory of his holiness. But we can know God through Jesus Christ the Son, know him as Father in a relationship of love, trust, and obedience.

Truths to Live By

We can worship with gifts. — We observe Christmas to celebrate Jesus' birth. But what is to be the manner of our celebration? It is both customary and appropriate to bring gifts. But the gifts for Christ should be special and exceptional gifts. They should be gifts appropriate for worship. The Christ born in Bethlehem is our living Lord. Our gifts of substance for the work of his church and the causes of his kingdom should express our recognition of his ownership of all things. Our gifts of love and devotion should express the gratitude of truly thankful hearts and the adoration of full self-giving to serve him in the world. And our gifts of praise should always declare that we cannot honor Christ with our lips unless our hearts are pure and our lives dedicated to his service. The gifts we bring to Christ at Christmas — and at every other time — should be worthy of the worship of him who is Lord and Saviour of our lives and over all the earth.

We can light candles. — This is much more than a figure of speech. Jesus reminds us of our mission, to be the light of the world. We cannot drive out the darkness by lamenting it or condemning it. But we can light a candle and thus overcome the darkness. A Christian can show love for a person surrounded by hate or enveloped in fear or overcome by loneliness and despair. A Christian can be thoughtful and generous, courteous and kind, patient and understanding, hopeful and optimistic, all in the midst of worry and selfishness and criticism and jealousy and ugly meanness. And thus the light of goodness will overcome the darkness of evil. A Christian can go where there is suffering from sickness or sorrow or hunger or mistreatment or tragedy and give help to bring the light of hope that will drive back the darkness of despair. The light of Christ is shining in the world, but his light is meant to be reflected in the lives of Christians who by what they are and what they do help to bring light and life to the hearts of men.

We can celebrate with hope. — The incarnation of Jesus Christ was the declaration of God's hope for a world in the bondage of evil. In spite of the iniquity in human hearts, there is wondrous hope in the redemption of Christ and in the coming of his kingdom. Therefore, let us celebrate Christmas with hope. This means that we shall think more about the significance of the Christian mission in the world than about merchandise and feasting and social status and selfish excitement. We shall think more about the vitality of churches and the spread of the gospel than about luxuries and securities. We shall think more about the sovereignty of Jesus Christ, the power of his redemption, the mighty working of his Spirit, and the certain victory of his kingdom than about the vain boasts of earthly rulers and the awful possibility of worldwide nuclear destruction.

Called To Wiggins

Cecil Lloyd Harper, a Hattiesburg native, recently began his duties as full-time minister of music and youth at First Church, Wiggins.

Mr. Harper graduated from the University of Southern Mississippi, and New Orleans Seminary, holding the BSM degree from both institutions.

Churches he has served are First, Princeton, Ky.; West Laurel, University, Coral Gables, Fla.; and for the past five years, First, Jackson. Mrs. Harper is the former Betty Lou Smith, and holds her degree in music education. The Harpers have four children, all of whom play musical instruments.

Rev. J. Ray Grissett is pastor at Wiggins.

John 1:1-18

By Bill Duncan

Some people sure have some fuzzy ideas about God and especially Jesus. A magazine reported that a hippie named Groovy said he did not believe in churches, "just in Christ." I see him as a man just like me, trying to live without hate. The other night I was witnessing to a young man and he told me, we cannot believe the same thing about Jesus Christ. To which I said, "What do you believe of Him?" The young school teacher said, "I cannot accept the virgin birth idea about Him." I think God adopted Jesus as His son.

Do you see, there is a great difference between a Bible's description of Jesus and this "do it yourself Christianity." The way to tell if one believes the Bible's account of Jesus is to ask if one believes in the existence of Jesus Christ prior to his coming to earth. Once you have accepted Him in this sphere of existence, then you can accept him as God in the flesh.

The other gospel writers began their gospel differently from John. Matthew began with the genealogy of Jesus Christ; Mark began with the public ministry of John the Baptist. Luke began with the birth of John the Baptist. But John began his gospel with the eternal Christ's being with God in the beginning.

Why did John choose to identify Jesus as the Word? John's purpose was to identify his gospel not only with the Jews, but with hundreds of Greeks who had become Christians also. He used the term, Word, because both kinds of people would know that he was talking about God Himself. To the Jews, the Word meant the creative powers of God Himself. To the Greeks, the term Word meant "Logos" — the reason and power for the universe. The Greeks used pagan mythology to explain the universe, but behind it all was the rational mind that "ran the whole show."

John also wanted to establish early in his gospel the deity of Christ. This was not just a man who died but God. This was not just a male child born but God became a baby. "He has always been alive and in Himself. God. John 1:2. By sharing this amazing truth, John is declaring that he had the function of being the maker of all that was created.

The whole New Testament tells us like this passage (John 1:1-18) that God has always been like Jesus. Jesus opened a window in time that we might see the eternal and unchanging God of Love. Jesus is the bringer of this life that is God-like, eternal.

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Continued On Page 8

## Youth Convention

Jackson, Mississippi

December 28-29, 1970

Monday Morning, December 28  
Calvary Baptist Church

State Youth Choir Festival  
Adjudication ..... Eddie Prather, presiding  
9:30 - 11:00  
First, Hazlehurst; McDowell Road, Jackson; Daniel Memorial, Jackson; First, Forest; First, Morton; Alta Woods, Jackson; Second, Indianola; and First, Hattiesburg.  
11:00 12:30  
First, Aberdeen; First, Ripley; First, Baldwin; First, Pontotoc; First, Columbus; Fairview, Columbus; Hattiesburg, Tupelo; First, Greenville; and First, Senatobia.

Monday Afternoon, December 28  
Calvary Baptist Church  
Norman Rodgers, Presiding

Registration  
2:20 Pre-session music  
2:30 Congregational Singing ..... Billy Jack Green  
Paul Lee, organist, Kaye Batson, pianist  
2:40 Announcements and introductions  
Welcome and opening  
prayer ..... Dr. Joe H. Tuten  
2:50 Fourth place winner, youth choir festival  
3:00 Recreation feature ..... Joe Mason  
3:10 Musical testimony ..... Eva Aultman  
Message ..... Douglas Watterson  
3:45 Break  
4:00 Conferences  
5:00 Adjourn

Monday Night, December 28  
Jackson City Auditorium  
(admission by ticket)  
Dan Hall, presiding

6:50 Pre-session music  
7:00 Pilgrim 20 Singers  
7:45 Youth testimonies  
Miss Chris McClamroch,  
Miss Mississippi  
John Vickers,  
Director, Miracle House  
8:00 Congregational Singing ..... Bill Wilkinson  
Kaye Batson, pianist  
Message ..... Gary Googe  
8:45 After-hours entertainment Sun-N-Sand Motel  
9:30 Recreation facilities open:  
till ..... Parkway Church gymnasium  
12:30 ..... Broadmoor Church gymnasium

Tuesday Morning, December 29  
Calvary Baptist Church  
Bill Latham, presiding

9:15 Pre-session music  
9:25 Recreation feature ..... Joe Mason  
9:30 Congregational singing ..... Roddy Simmons  
Tommy Jabor, organist; Jimmy Lee, pianist  
Prayer  
9:45 "Living in the Spirit" ..... music drama  
James Hayes, director  
Discussion ..... Jerry Talley, moderator  
Panelists: Dr. Bob Simmons; Eva Carolyn Aultman, Dr. Graham Hales, Jr., Gary Googe.  
10:55 Congregational singing  
11:05 Third place winner, youth choir festival  
Message ..... Douglas Watterson

Tuesday Afternoon, December 29  
Calvary Baptist Church  
Billy Jack Green, presiding

1:50 Pre-session music  
2:00 Congregational singing ..... Eddie Prather  
Tommy Jabor, organist; Jimmy Lee, pianist  
Announcements, prayer  
2:15 "Dust of the Road" ..... drama  
Clarke College,  
Juanita West, director  
2:15 Break  
2:45 Conferences  
3:45 Break  
4:00 Recreation feature ..... Joe Mason  
4:05 Congregational singing  
Announcements  
4:20 Second place winner, youth choir festival  
Message ..... Douglas Watterson  
5:00 Adjourn

Tuesday Night, December 29  
Jackson City Auditorium  
(admission by ticket)  
Kermit S. King, presiding

6:50 Pre-session music  
7:00 First place winner, youth choir festival  
7:10 Congregational singing ..... Tommy Howard  
Paul Lee, pianist  
Prayer  
7:30 "Now Hear it Again" ..... 500 voice choir  
Elwyn Raymer, conductor  
8:00 Message ..... Douglas Watterson

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## Rev. George Gay Honored On 40th Year As Preacher

Rev. George Gay was saluted at First Church, Chipley, Fla., Sunday, November 8, in ceremonies marking his fortieth anniversary as an ordained minister. He also was the subject of Editor Arthur Halliburton's weekly column, "The Word Patch," in the Washington County News, Chipley, Florida, in the issue of



November 5. Mr. Gay was formerly pastor in Mississippi at Byram; Damascus, Hazlehurst; Spring Hill, Martinsville; Rosedale; First, Marks; First, Okolona; and First, Ripley. He has been pastor at First, Chipley, since 1962. After leaving Mississippi in 1954, he served at First Church, Marianna, Fla., and later at First, Andalusia, Alabama.

First, Chipley held "Honor Your Pastor Day" on November 8 presenting to Mr. Gay a special plaque. A reception was held following the evening service.

It was in Jackson, Miss., at the Griffith Memorial Church on November 9, 1930, that Mr. Gay was ordained as a minister of the Gospel.

Mrs. Margie McCall, the wife of the late Dr. D. A. McCall, pastor who led in the ordination, was present for the services at Chipley.

Dr. Wyatt Hunter, pastor emeritus of First Church, McComb, brought the morning message on Nov. 8 at Chipley. It was Dr. Hunter who officiated at the wedding ceremony which united Mr. and Mrs. Gay in marriage.

## 1st, Macon, Calls Pastor

First Church, Macon, recently called Rev. Hugh Poole, as pastor.



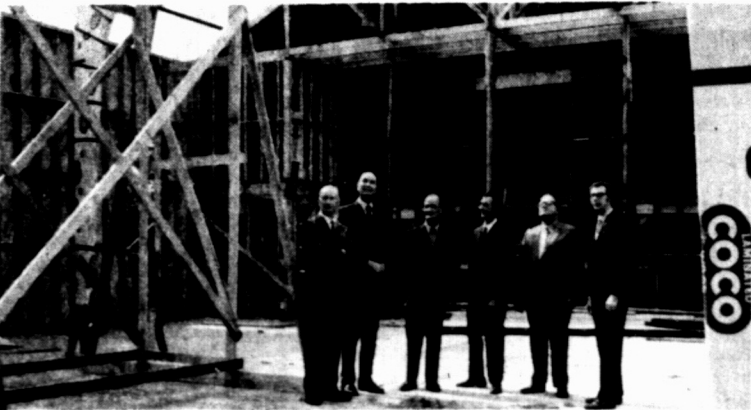
Mr. Poole, a graduate of Clarke College and New Orleans Seminary, is married to the former Ruby Alice Kennedy of Picayune. They have two sons, Larry, a student at U.S.M., Hattiesburg, and Brad, a 7th grade student.

Rev. and Mrs. Poole moved to Macon November 17 after serving four years as pastor of Concord Church, Yazoo Association.



## Valley Hill Erects Education Building

DEDICATION SERVICES were held Sunday, Nov. 15, at Valley Hill Church, Carroll Association, for a new education building. The second of a six-unit long-range building plan. This building consists of a fellowship hall, Sunday School and Training Union classrooms and restrooms. Rev. Lavon Hatten brought the dedication message. Rev. George Jones, pastor of the church, is pictured with the new building.



REV. CHESTER T. ESTES, JR. (right) is seen with the Deacon Council of Antioch Church (Rankin) as they check the progress of a completely new auditorium and two-story education building being constructed for more than \$90,000 by James Smith, contractor, Brookhaven. Left to right are: Elton Everitt, Elton "Pet" Huff (Deacon Council Chairman), R. L. Till, Jr., William Huff, Lavoy Wilkinson (Building Committee Chairman), and Rev. Chester Estes (pastor).

## Antioch Calls Pastor, Begins Building

Rev. Chester T. Estes, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Chester T. Estes, Sr. of Ocean Springs has just become pastor of Antioch Church, Rankin Association. He moved to Antioch from the First Church Mission in Union.

Mr. Estes was ordained by First Church, Ocean Springs, and has served churches in Mississippi and Florida. He attended Clarke College and Mississippi College. He is presently working on a degree with the Luther Rice Seminary in Jacksonville, Florida.

da. Mrs. Estes, formerly Shirley Gommillion (daughter of Mrs. Mason Gommillion) of Union, is also a graduate of Clarke College.

Mr. Estes has conducted revivals as a chalk artist evangelist in Florida, Kentucky, and Mississippi. He has been in professional photography for eight years, and is presently serving part-time as staff photographer for Clarke College. He holds membership in the National Press Photographers Association.

## West Honors - - -

(Continued from page 7)

ing knowledge, especially regarding God's Holy Word;

"WHEREAS, Dr. Lowrey further rendered to his denomination service worthy of recognition;

"WHEREAS, the West Baptist Church is also dedicated to the task of teaching the Word of God;

"WHEREAS, the membership of this church wishes to honor the memory of its former pastor, Dr. W. T. Lowrey;

"THEREFORE, be it resolved that an adult Bible class of the West Baptist Church be known from this time forth as the Lowrey Memorial Bible Class."

## MANY PASTORS

The West Baptist Church, since its organization in 1870, has had numerous pastors, many of whom have been distinguished.

The church has sent out one missionary, Miss Auris Pender, who is still active in foreign mission service.

## OLDEST DEACON

During the centennial service, E. E. Tate was recognized as being the oldest deacon, with thirty-seven continuous years of service. He was also cited for his excellent woodworking ability and for making the church's pulpit, choir, kitchen, and children's room furniture, offering plates, outdoor bulletin board, and for painting the baptistry scene.

Mrs. Kate Brock was presented a certificate for being the oldest living member of the church. She was also recognized as a member who faithfully served as a Sunday School teacher, delegate to numerous associational meetings, donor, along with the late Dr. W. G. Brock, of the pastorate lot, and as one keenly interested in the progress of the church.

Mrs. Irene Autry Rainer was recognized for serving twenty consecutive years as clerk; Miss Marjorie Self, for being the youngest church member. This recognition service, during which former members and pastors and other visitors were recognized, was led by R. L. Jackson.

Another feature of the centennial program was the dedication of the church's library, outdoor bulletin board, new pews, and hymnals. The dedicatory prayer was led by Rev. L. D. Wall, former pastor of the church who is now associational missionary for Grenada and Yalobusha associations.

The highlights of the church history were read by Mrs. Joe McLellan, and the anniversary message was delivered by the present pastor, Rev. Jerry C. Tate.



SMILES OF pleasure and surprise lighted the faces of (from left) Mrs. A. L. Broadway Sr., Mrs. Ethel Leggett and Mrs. John Muse Sr. when Union Chapel at Cagle Crossing honored them at a special celebration on Sunday, November 15.

## Three Honored At Union Chapel Church

Three widows, whose unselfish friendship has brightened the lives of residents of Cagle Crossing, received a big surprise when they attended Union Chapel Church on Sunday, Nov. 15.

The whole service was a tribute to them; and, afterwards, a luncheon was given for them in the fellowship hall.

Honored by their friends and fellow church members were Mrs. A. L. Broadway, Sr., Mrs. Ethel Leggett and Mrs. John Muse, Sr. Upon their

arrival at church, the three were presented with corsages by Mrs. Jack Williams.

During the service, Mrs. C. H. Taylor made a brief talk on what Mrs. Broadway, Mrs. Leggett and Mrs. Muse meant to their community and commented on their "wonderful Christian lives."

Rev. Clint Taylor took as his sermon topic the manner in which the three had followed Christ's teachings and The Golden Rule.

## Baptist Hospital Invites Boys And Girls To Enter Holiday Drawing Competition

Mississippi Baptist Hospital in Jackson is calling on all boys and girls five through twelve years old to send drawings which depict a visit to a hospital.

The art contest is part of the hospital's 60th anniversary observance to be launched on January 3, and appropriate prizes will be given to those who submit the most original drawings.

## Hamilton Calls Pastor

Hamilton Church at Hamilton has called as pastor Rev. Charles Ellis. Mr. Ellis served as pastor of Central Grove Church, Wren, for seven years and at West Marks Church, Marks, for six and one-half years.



Married to the former Anna Kate Jaggers of Okolona, he is the father of three sons, Andy, 18, Tim, 9, and Phillip, 8.

Hamilton Church, constituted July 12, 1970, served as a mission for about one year, with Rev. Joseph W. Oliver, superintendent of missions, as pastor.

Mr. Ellis moved onto the field October 12, and is the first pastor to serve since the church was constituted.

## Devotional

## Christianity Is An Adventure

By Bob Marsh, Pastor, First, Laurel

A message which needs to reach our day is "following Jesus Christ is a thrilling journey, and an exciting discovery, the only way to meaningful existence." Miss America recently stated, "Following Jesus Christ is an adventure that nowhere else is found." Youth, today, seeks a leader, an adventuresome leader, and that leader, that adventure of life is found in Jesus Christ.



Wait a minute! Someone cynically states, "Do, you mean that? You must be putting me on! Look around at the affluent comfortable churches, well-fed members who indifferently play their religious games. Half-hearted loyalty, more excited about politics and football than Jesus Christ. Do you call that an adventure?" It is sad that our generation is asking the church a most embarrassing question! "Isn't Christianity just a celestial charade, a game we play to maintain respectability in the community, a denominational drag, harmless meetings where self-promoting people have bland programs, and grease the machinery of their private institutions? Come on, Christians, isn't this all there is to Christianity? The counting of nickels and noses, praying for missions but afraid to get involved in the real needs of people, isn't this the sum total of Christianity? And you call that an adventure? It sounds more like a phony game!" We may have our defense mechanisms go into high gear, but our generation wants the answer to these questions. You see, we have made that tremendous claim that in Jesus Christ there is a leader who will lead us into life's greatest adventure. In our day, many have declared, "We would rather find life in pot or sex, but if you Christians know an adventure, let us see it!"

Jesus Christ was an adventurer! Saviour of the world was he, but his salvation is not some namby-pamby, pie-in-the-sky dream.

Jesus touched men's pocketbooks when he drove the money changers out of the Temple. He touched their social standings when he said we should love all men, even the Samaritans. He touched the comfortable religion when he called for them to take up a cross rather than a cushion. And the religious, economic, and social forces all agreed: "This man is an adventurer who must be put out of the way. He makes life too exciting and meaningful."

Jesus Christ the Saviour of the world called us to follow Him, and this leads to life's most thrilling adventure. The world today is groping in confusion, looking for certainty. Jesus says, "I am the truth." Mankind is looking for meaning to existence on this spinning, sinning planet. Jesus said, "I am the life." In the midst of death and broken heart, Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life." Maybe our generation could be reached if we present to it the fact that Jesus Christ does not call us to an insipid religion. He calls us to follow him. What an adventure!

## S. S. Lesson - - -

(Continued from page 7)

ture in all its weakness and in all its liability to sin. This is one of the greatest statements on the humanity of Jesus in the whole New Testament. God came in Christ and showed us how this life ought to be lived. This life was full of pure love for mankind and the embodiment of truth that must be believed. This life was also full of glory that was made known in the power of miracle and love. The glory that was on Jesus was known by all who saw him. It was uniquely His own.

The glory of God that is shown at this Christmas is not that of tyrant,

OSWALD CHAMBERS: When you are in the dark, listen, and God will give you a very precious message for someone else when you get into the light.

but that of love before which we fall lost in wonder, love and praise. How did it come about? Only faith can answer that question.

Will your repeated experience of Christmas show the spirit of the eternal Christ that continues to live and show his grace, truth, and glory? The eternal Christ, that lived, was born and continues to live, must live in our hearts as Lord if we are to be his children.

REJOICE AND BE MERRY in song and in mirth! O praise our Redeemer, all mortals on earth! For this is the birthday of Jesus our King,

who brought us salvation, His praises we'll sing! — From an old church gallery book discovered in Dorset, England

## The Spirit Of Christmas

There is something about the Christmas time, something in the spirit of it that sweeps it clean of the dust of other days and hal-lows it.—Charles H. Daniels

## Off The Record



Beautiful Santa  
DENVER —Professional Santa Claus Jean Apperson sits patiently beneath a hair dryer during the finishing phase of his weekly shampoo, bleach, setting and styling of his silvery hair and beard. Mr. Apperson, who has been playing Santa for 31 years, gets his beauty treatment in Denver, not the North Pole (RNS Photo)

## That's better

The diner was annoyed because the waiter had brought him a knife and fork, but no spoon.

"This coffee," he said pointedly, "is going to be pretty hot to stir with my fingers."

The waiter reddened, and beat a hasty retreat to the kitchen. He returned shortly with another cup of coffee.

"This one isn't so hot, sir," he beamed.

## Communication

The little boy was visiting his grandmother for the first time in several years. She prepared a bowl of mush for his breakfast, but nothing she could do would entice him to eat it.

"You ate mush the first time you stayed with me," she finally told him.

"Why not this time?"

"I know I did," said the little fellow, "but I couldn't talk then."

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## Quick, Please